

the Voice of Democracy Scholarship Program, to my colleagues.

"MY VISION FOR AMERICA"

"Where there is no vision, the people perish."

Never has this saying from the Book of Proverbs been more true than for our country, right now. Imagine, you are traveling through time to the year 2020, but instead of the high-tech world of thriving businesses and prospering families, you see ransacked, decaying cities. The former United States, once strong and powerful, is now bankrupt both financially and morally, a mere shadow of its former self. The world leader that once generously gave to needy nations must now beg for help. How has the American dream become this nightmare? Since this is a nightmare, and not reality, I am so thankful that the vision for America is still ours to shape.

Will Durant said, "The present is the past rolled up for action, and the past is the present unrolled for understanding." In 1776, a vision for America was already unfolding. Let's sift out the gold from the rubble of history and rediscover our beloved country in the process. We can dust off the bedrock principles that guided our Founding Fathers then, and still keep us on course today. What are these principles? We must first know them, understand them, and embrace them before we can be willing to live by them and die for them.

Lives have been put on the line, fortunes risked and, sacrifices made by a long line of patriots, from the signers of our declaration, to the many brave veterans of conflicts today. The inner fire that drove all of these was fueled by belief in certain rights and principles as set forth in our Constitution and Bill of Rights. They are simple, yet profound. Among them are the right to own property, to worship as we see fit, to meet and speak freely, and to be free from any undue government interference. The dignity of human life, common decency, personal responsibility, and a free enterprise system were treasured as necessary to freedom. These have been hard-won, and hard-kept. The price of freedom is not apathy, but constant vigilance.

Seeing the brilliance of gold from the past, I can say that my vision for a strong America includes a resurgence of unashamed pride and love for all that this country stands for. We must preserve and communicate these values without compromise.

Former President Ronald Reagan said, "The family has always been the cornerstone of American society . . ." and that ". . . the strength of our families is vital to the strength of our nation."

Our family structure, where these values are taught and nurtured, must be supported by our society, laws and institutions. Children snuggled on our lap can be read the thrilling stories of all our American heroes, learning that there is a moral law, and that the truly brave live by it.

My vision for America's future includes a hard look at the present, not as hopeless hand-writing, but as calls to courageous action. It is our duty to participate as citizens, not as passive bystanders. If the government is to be of the people, by the people and for the people, then there must be involved people. It takes very little time to call a congressman, to vote, or to attend a town meeting to voice an opinion.

This vision of Future America beckons to me with great hope and anticipation. The crumbling structures of our land have been reinforced with a fresh appreciation for our tradition and heritage. Any fog of confusion about our nation's identity has been pierced with the light of truth. The shackles of help-

lessness have been opened with the key of principled thinking and responsible citizenship. Our foundation of freedom is once more visible, and the spirit of our forefathers recaptured. The pollution of compromise is clearing from our purpose, and now all that is right and true and lasting comes into focus once again. As Americans, we will see the bright gold of restored vision for our country, and will know that this nation, under god, indivisible, still has liberty and justice for all.

ALLOW MUNICIPAL USERS TO SHARE FEDERAL FACILITIES

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 4, 1995

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, water supplies for California cities are extremely limited. Whenever possible, cities attempt to use their water storage and conveyance systems in the most efficient ways they can.

The city of Vallejo has tried to use its water supply facilities more efficiently, but has been frustrated by a limitation in Federal law that prohibits the city from sharing space in an existing Federal water delivery canal.

The city of Vallejo simply desires to "wheel" some of its drinking water through part of the canal serving California's Solano Project, a water project built by the Bureau of Reclamation in the 1950's. Vallejo is prepared to pay any appropriate charges for the use of this facility.

Allowing Vallejo to use the Solano project should be a simple matter, but it is not. Legislation is required to allow the city to use the Federal water project for carriage of municipal and industrial water.

Congress in recent years has expanded the scope of the Warren Act to apply to other communities in California and Utah where there existed a need for more water management flexibility. The legislation I am introducing today will simply extend similar flexibility to the Solano project and to the city of Vallejo.

I very much appreciate Mayor Tony Intintoli's bringing this situation to my attention. I would hope that we would be able to deal with this matter in the Resources Committee quickly and without controversy.

REGULATION OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 4, 1995

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my concern over recent press reports that the President is currently considering giving FDA the green light to assert regulatory jurisdiction over tobacco products. The notion of FDA asserting regulatory jurisdiction over tobacco products as drugs runs counter to statutory, regulatory, and agency precedence in this area.

For decades, Congress has expressly reserved to itself the authority to regulate tobacco products. As one congressional report made clear:

The clear mandate of Congress [is] that the basic regulation of tobacco and tobacco products is governed by legislation dealing with the subject . . . any further regulation in this sensitive and complex area must be reserved for specific Congressional Action.

This position has long been acknowledged by none other than the FDA itself. As early as 1972, FDA Commissioner Charles Edwards testified that: "[T]he regulation of cigarettes is to be the domain of Congress." Historically, the FDA has rejected petitions calling on FDA to regulate tobacco products noting that since manufacturers do not make therapeutic claims, tobacco products should not be declared "drugs" under the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act and regulated by FDA. This is a position which has been upheld in the courts as it relates to tobacco. Further, in every meaningful case on the subject of whether a product could be regulated as a drug, the courts have found that absent the therapeutic claims by the manufacturer, they cannot.

Even Dr. Kessler has recognized that this issue raises serious public policy questions that must and should involve Congress. In February of last year, Dr. Kessler wrote anti-smoking groups stating:

We recognize that the regulation of cigarettes raises societal issues of great complexity and magnitude. It is vital in this context that Congress provide clear direction to the Agency.

These statements are equally applicable to tobacco products other than cigarettes.

Congress has consistently rejected every attempt to give FDA the authority that Dr. Kessler seems to desire. Congress has considered and rejected numerous bills to give FDA regulatory authority over tobacco products. During the last Congress, a bill, H.R. 2147, would have amended the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act.

to regulate the manufacture, labeling, sale, distribution, and advertising and promotion of tobacco and other products containing nicotine, tar, additives and other potentially harmful constituents. * * *

was introduced and rejected. In fact, on no occasion has a bill granting FDA authority to regulate tobacco products as drugs even passed out of subcommittee.

Mr. Speaker, the FDA does not have the authority to regulate tobacco products as "drugs", absent the explicit authorization of Congress. Congress should be working meaningful to reduce access to tobacco products by minors.

COMMEMORATE AUGUST 16, 1995 AS SOCIAL SECURITY DAY

HON. THOMAS M. FOGLIETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 4, 1995

Mr. FOGLIETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate August 16, 1995 as Social Security Day to be celebrated in the Philadelphia North Broad Street Social Security Office.

On August 14, 1935, President Roosevelt signed the Social Security Act to ". . . give some measure of protection to the average citizen and to his family against the loss of a job and against poverty-ridden old age." Since that historic signing, Social Security has